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"GARDEN CITIES"

Much interest attaches to the announcement that a "Garden City" is to be built on Long Island within commuting distance from New York under expert advice and direction. The initial financial outlay, which will amount to several millions of dollars, will be made by Mrs. Sage under the advisement of Mr. Lockwood de Forest; Frederick Law Olmsted will lay out the "City" and Grosvenor Atterbury superintend the architectural designing of the houses. This is not, it is declared, a charity but a business venture, and one which it is thought will make ample return. There is no reason why it should not, but because of this it is none the less philan-

thropy. Unlike the "Garden Cities" of England, this city is not for laboring men, but for those who have been aptly described by a writer of fiction as "the comfortably poor." Such a scheme has great possibilities and its outworking will be watched with much interest. In England the "Garden City" has in more than one instance proved practical. The great metropolis of London is in fact being surrounded by a chain of these garden suburbs, consisting of aggregations of workingmen's country homes. At the laying of the corner-stone of one of the latest of these, "Romford Garden," Mr. John Burns said: "The object of these garden suburbs is an attempt to bring the country and the garden into the town, and by judicious amalgamation of both to secure, not only for the working classes, but for the whole of the people irrespective of class, something more tolerable, more decent, more beautiful, and more human than many of the collections of houses of all sorts that had been dumped in and about London in the past hundred years." Mr. Burns, in conclusion, said that he believed that the English had nothing to gain and much to lose by imitating Germany, France or America. This may, of course, have been self-complacency, but those who have visited the garden suburbs of London and contrasted them with the mill villages of New England must admit that we, in America, have as yet little about which to boast. To be sure, there are some exceptions, such as Hopedale and Whitinsville, but for the most part there are few places more devoid of beauty, more utterly forlorn, than the suburban towns in New England where workingmen dwell. If the experiment to be tried by Mrs. Sage proves successful, less unsightliness will be found in the future.

DEMOCRATIC ART

There are those who do not believe that art can be democratic, and yet such is not the testimony of history. The greatest art has been produced by the common people and has been born when